



U. S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Indian Affairs; Southwest Region
Southern Pueblos Agency, Branch of Forestry
P.O. Box 1667; Albuquerque, NM 87103

WILDFIRE UPDATE

February 14, 2006
12:00 p.m.

Contact: Paula Shattuck
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ISLETA FIRE

- Acres: approximately 350 acres
- Containment: 80% contained
- Threats: No homes or structures threatened
- Cause: Currently under investigation
- Location: 17 miles south of Albuquerque, New Mexico; on Isleta Pueblo in the Isleta Bosque; south of Isleta Recreation Center and east of NM Highway 314

Road Closures: None; Highway 314 is open.

Resources:

- 12 engines
- 4 water tenders
- 1 helicopter
- 150 overhead/personnel

Cooperating agencies:

- Incident Commander Tom Gavin, BIA
- BIA Southern Pueblos Agency engines
- Bernalillo County Fire Department
- Isleta Volunteer Fire Department
- Isleta Tribal bulldozer
- Forest Service, USDA
- Bureau of Land Management, USDI
- Santa Fe Hotshots, Santa Fe National Forest, USDA Forest Service
- Bernalillo County Sheriff's Department Metro II helicopter
- Southwest Firefighter (SWFF) Type 2 crew, Zuni Pueblo

Situation:

Currently, multiple wildland fire agencies and fire personnel are still on the scene and will remain on the scene throughout today. During this time, wildland fire personnel--the Zuni SWFF crew and the Santa Fe Hotshots--will be working primarily on the east side of the river to secure the firelines and will mop up hot spots, smoldering tree stumps, and snags (standing, dead trees). Helicopter support will be dropping water on hot spots. The fire investigation is ongoing at this time. No known cause of ignition source has been discovered. Because the fire is not fully contained, visible smoke will remain in the area, but will reduce as firefighting efforts continue. Highway 314 is open for travel. There are no driving visibility hazards present for evening commuters traveling through the area. All communities experiencing heavy smoke conditions are advised to stay indoors.

Precautionary actions to take during this time:

- ✓ If you or your family members have health conditions (i.e., asthma, bronchitis, emphysema, etc.), stay indoors to reduce breathing complications.
- ✓ Elderly persons, small children, and infants should decrease time spent outside to lower excessive exposure to smoke inhalation.
- ✓ Keep ventilating devices (swamp coolers/fans) off during the heaviest times of smoke inversions.
- ✓ Use extreme caution while driving. Reduced visibility can cause road driving hazards.

For more information, call BIA Southern Pueblos Agency Branch of Forestry at (505)-563-3656.

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